

SPORTS

# Clothing narrowly escapes second loss to CVIC 21-20

CPL. ALISHA R. FITZGERALD  
STAFF WRITER

Clothing managed to get retribution for its only loss of the season when they defeated CVIC 21-20 in Marine Corps Community Services-South Carolina intramural football action at the Depot football field Nov. 4.

Since Oct. 7, when CVIC defeated Clothing, both teams have been itching for a re-match. For the CVIC players, it was so they could prove that the win was not a fluke. For the Clothing players, it was so they could prove once and for all that they are the best team in the league, bar none.

“I don’t even feel that they beat us the first time,” said Danny Fisher, a linebacker/receiver for Clothing. “We beat ourselves. We had four chances to score and didn’t.”

For this second match up, the Clothing players wanted to ensure history did not repeat itself, as they evaluated what went wrong the first time.

“This time, we wanted to be sure not to make the same mistakes twice,” said Fisher. “We were simply going to capitalize on what we should’ve last time.”

The first half of the re-match seemed to exemplify Clothing’s game plan, as outside linebacker Herman Pierrelouis ran in a touchdown during the first few minutes to give his team the early lead. CVIC failed to respond before the half, and the score remained 6-0.

The second half proved more eventful for CVIC, however, as linebacker Gregory Mitchell scored a touchdown and the extra point to give his team a 7-6 lead. When Clothing got the ball back, its efforts proved futile as CVIC’s defense began to turn up the heat, with a quarterback sack by defensive lineman Michael Molinski.

The CVIC players capitalized on the defensive efforts on their next possession, as David Moran, a CVIC wide

receiver/cornerback, caught a 30-yard pass in the end zone, bumping the lead to 13-6.

Their defense continued to prevent Clothing from scoring, as Molinski got a second sack, and linebacker Kevin Constant deflected a pass just in front of Clothing’s goal line. This time, however, CVIC’s offense did not execute, and Clothing got the ball back with only two minutes left in regulation.

Clothing had not scored since early in the first half and knew this possession was crucial. The pressure did not faze the players, however, as John Epps, defensive end for Clothing, took the ball directly into the end zone. The extra-point play was good, tying the score at 13. Only a minute and a half remained as CVIC put in its offense.

The criticality of the situation was of no consequence to the Clothing players, as they focused on the task at hand.

“There’s been plenty of times that we’ve had to score in the last minute or two of the game, and we always manage it,” said Fisher. “We were just setting them up to think they were going to win.”

As the clock continued to wind down, tensions ran high. CVIC’s quarterback, Will Cuellar, gained about 30 yards on his team’s

next possession. The rest of the offense followed suit, continuing to gain yardage, as center Josh Brown had two consecutive receptions. Then, Cuellar found Mitchell in the end zone for his second touchdown of the game. Brown got the extra point and CVIC regained the lead at 20-13, as only 35 seconds remained.



Cpl. Alisha R. Fitzgerald  
CVIC’s Josh Brown runs the ball as Clothing’s Casper Stephen’s moves in for the tackle Tuesday night during intramural football action at the Depot football field. Clothing beat CVIC in a come-from-behind victory with just seconds on the clock.

Things looked good for CVIC as Clothing threw the ball away on the first play of its next possession. On the next snap, a 40-yard pass intended for Casper Stephens, Clothing’s coach/running back, seemed to be simultaneously caught by Stephens and Moran. Both went down clutching the ball. The referee ruled in Clothing’s favor, however, and the team achieved a first down.

The next two plays resulted nothing, as one was ruled pass interference on CVIC and the next was a fumble by Epps. There was only time left for maybe one or two more plays, as

Then, Toriano Bonaparte, Clothing’s quarterback, found Stephens in the end zone. He caught the pass even as a flag was thrown for another interference on CVIC.

The score was 20-19 in CVIC’s favor, with enough time remaining for a two-point conversion attempt by Clothing.

“We all know that it’s not over until the final whistle blows,” said Tousnel Renaud, a cornerback for Clothing.

CVIC struggled with how to defend the final play of the game.

“I wanted to double-team Stephens, but I knew they would be expecting that,” said Ray Glover, CVIC’s coach. “I figured if I

did that, they would find Epps. I felt that either way would’ve yielded the same results.”

Glover decided against singling out Stephens, and Clothing ran the exact same play for the conversion. Stephens caught the ball, and the game was over.

Throughout the game, the Clothing players never doubted they would emerge victorious. They look for the same results come playoff time.

“Like we’ve been saying the whole season: I don’t think anybody can really give us a game,” said Fisher. “If we get beat, we beat ourselves.”

In the event the two teams meet again in the post season, the Clothing players said they plan to make the game a little less exciting.

“It will be a whole different story in the playoffs,” said Robert Moore, a defensive end for Clothing. “It won’t be near as close of a game. I can promise you that.”

The tournament is scheduled to begin Tuesday at the Depot football field.

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